

## ALEC EXPOSED

"ALEC" has long been a secretive collaboration between Big Business and "conservative" politicians. Behind closed doors, they ghostwrite "model" bills to be introduced in state capitols across the country. This agenda-underwritten by global corporations--includes major tax loopholes for big industries and the super rich, proposals to offshore U.S. jobs and gut minimum wage, and efforts to weaken public health, safety, and environmental protections. Although many of these bills have become law, until now, their origin has been largely unknown. With **ALEC EXPOSED**, the Center for Media and Democracy hopes more Americans will study the bills to understand the depth and breadth of how big corporations are changing the legal rules and undermining democracy across the nation.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Corporations VOTED to adopt this. Through ALEC, global companies work as "equals" in "unison" with politicians to write laws to govern your life. Big Business has "a VOICE and a VOTE," according to newly exposed documents. **DO YOU?**

Home → Model Legislation → Tax and Fiscal Policy ←

### Statement of Principles for Model State Laws to Encourage Philanthropic Creation and Operation

Philanthropy exemplifies the American ideal of private action in the public interest, demonstrating our faith in the capacity of individual citizens not only to create wealth, but also - voluntarily - to care for their country, their communities and their fellow citizens without undue reliance on government.

Philanthropy shows our commitment to the wellbeing of our neighbors, strangers in need, the wellbeing of the environment, and of our society. It rests upon the premise that both recipients and donors have the capacity for self-government and wise choices and further serves as a laboratory of innovation in addressing some of society's greatest challenges.

The independence of thought and diversity of interests and perspectives of so many committed private actors is the wellspring of the sector's vitality, and must therefore be protected. This deeply-rooted American tradition should be honored as one of America's finest achievements and as evidence of people's capacity for individual initiative and self-governance, not burdened with costly and potentially crippling constraints on its work.

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- **Promote and facilitate *innovation* in the philanthropic sector:**
  - Simplify and streamline the process for establishing foundations, trusts and donor advised funds
  - Modernize state trust and charitable benefit laws to encourage innovation in the creation of charitable vehicles to encourage and advance philanthropy
  - Simplify the valuation of in-kind charitable donations
- **Lessen bureaucratic burdens faced by foundations and promote *simplicity*:**
  - Accept the federal forms 1023 and 990-PF for state tax exempt recognition and tax filing requirements
  - Promote and expand electronic filing of state required documents
  - Develop streamlined procedures for operational oversight or regulation of foundations by agency(s) of the State
- **Protect foundations' rights to *self-governance*:**
  - Establish by law that decisions concerning the size and composition of foundations' board and staff are exclusively within the discretion of foundations themselves consistent with the foundation's governing documents
- **Safeguard the *freedom* of foundations to pursue their diverse and myriad charitable purposes:**
  - Establish by law a foundation's charitable mission and the scope of their work be determined solely by the foundation's bylaws and incorporating documents
- **Promote the highest standards of *integrity* in the philanthropic sector:**
  - Impose or increase current excise tax penalties on those engaging in self dealing
  - Make tax-exempt entities and their managers subject to penalties for

Did you know that the Evergreen Freedom Foundation --which is connected to the Kochs-- was the corporate co-chair in 2011?"

## ALEC's Corporate Board

--in recent past or present

- AT&T Services, Inc.
- centerpoint360
- UPS
- Bayer Corporation
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Energy Future Holdings
- Johnson & Johnson
- Coca-Cola Company
- PhRMA
- Kraft Foods, Inc.
- Coca-Cola Co.
- Pfizer Inc.
- Reed Elsevier, Inc.
- DIAGEO
- Peabody Energy
- Intuit, Inc.
- Koch Industries, Inc.
- ExxonMobil
- Verizon
- Reynolds American Inc.
- Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
- Salt River Project
- Altria Client Services, Inc.
- American Bail Coalition
- State Farm Insurance

For more on these corporations, search at [www.SourceWatch.org](http://www.SourceWatch.org).

**About Us and ALEC EXPOSED.** The Center for Media and Democracy reports on corporate spin and government propaganda. We are located in Madison, Wisconsin, and publish [www.PRWatch.org](http://www.PRWatch.org), [www.SourceWatch.org](http://www.SourceWatch.org), and now [www.ALECexposed.org](http://www.ALECexposed.org). For more information contact: [editor@prwatch.org](mailto:editor@prwatch.org) or 608-260-9713.